Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund

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Organizational matters

Decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2009 (19 to 22 January 2009, New York)

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2009/1
Proposed measures for the resumption of UNDP programme operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

The Executive Board,

Having considered the proposals contained in document DP/2009/8,

1. *Takes note of* the proposed measures for the resumption of programme operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DP/2009/8);

2. *Welcomes* the efforts of all parties to ensure that management and programme implementation practices conform with Executive Board guidance;

3. *Authorizes* the resumption of programme activities in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea based on the measures set forth in DP/2009/8 and further clarified in statements made by UNDP to the Executive Board during its first regular session 2009;

4. *Authorizes* the Administrator to approve additional projects in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on a project-by-project basis, for the period 2009-2010.

22 January 2009

2009/2
Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2006-2007

The Executive Board,

Having reviewed the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2006-2007 (DP/2009/5, DP/FPA/2009/1 and DP/2009/6, respectively),

1. *Requests* UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS to provide a joint briefing at the annual session 2009, including a conference room paper, on the preparations, implementation and implications of the international public sector accounting standards on UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS;

With respect to UNDP:

2 *Notes* that the Board of Auditors issued an 'unqualified' audit opinion for UNDP with respect to the biennium ended 31 December 2007;

3. *Recognizes* the progress made by UNDP in addressing the 'top 15' audit priorities in 2006-2007;

4. *Expresses its support* for the specific efforts made by UNDP to address key audit priorities in the 2008-2009 biennium;

5. *Requests* UNDP to provide, with future reports to the Executive Board, an accompanying matrix, on an informal basis, that illustrates the status of implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, including proposed actions;

6. *Stresses* the importance of timely and full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, particularly in key functions of the organization, including indicators for results-based management, treasury management, procurement, enterprise risk management, audit coverage of national execution, audit coverage of headquarters and asset management;

With respect to UNFPA:

5. *Takes note of* the further action planned by UNFPA in implementing the recommendations of the Board of Auditors for 2006-2007, and *stresses* the importance of timely and full implementation of these recommendations;

With respect to UNOPS:

6. *Notes* that the Board of Auditors issued an 'unqualified' audit opinion for UNOPS with respect to the biennium that ended 31 December 2007, and *stresses* the importance of timely and full implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors;

7. *Acknowledges* the good progress made by UNOPS in strengthening internal controls and improving its financial viability since the release in June 2007 of the audit report for the biennium ending 31 December 2005.

22 January 2009

2009/3
Report of the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to the Economic and Social Council

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the report of the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to the Economic and Social Council (E/2009/5);

2. *Underscores* the importance of the full implementation of General Assembly resolution 62/208;

3. *Decides* to transmit the above-mentioned report (E/2009/5) to the Economic and Social Council, along with a summary of the comments and guidance provided by delegations at the present session;

4. *Requests* UNDP and UNFPA to include in future reports a more qualitative assessment and analysis of results achieved, progress made and difficulties encountered, as well as lessons learned;

5. *Requests* that future reports adhere to the structure established in General Assembly resolution 62/208 and include recommendations to further improve its implementation;

6. *Requests* the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to consider ways to improve future reports, taking into account relevant resolutions of the Economic and Social Council, report E/2008/49, and the need to achieve efficiency and effectiveness in their reporting practices, and to consult with the Executive Board in order to prepare a proposal on this matter at its second regular session 2009.

22 January 2009

2009/4
Financial regulations and rules of the United Nations Office for Project Services

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note* of the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) delineated in document DP/2009/4, in accordance with decision 2008/35, as well as the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (AC/1673);

2. *Notes* the need to amend the UNOPS financial regulations and rules to permit them to address the unique business realities faced by the organization and facilitate the implementation of the international public sector accounting standards;

3. *Expresses appreciation* for the conscientious effort, as represented by the proposed financial regulations and rules, to improve the ability of UNOPS to function as a self-financing entity of the United Nations system;

4. *Approves* the proposed financial regulations and rules, to take effect on 1 February 2009, with the following exceptions and modifications:

(a) the removal of regulation 2.04;

(b) the establishment of a process for management to consult the Strategy and Audit Advisory Committee on any proposed amendments or suspension of the financial rules, and to inform the Executive Board of any proposed amendments or suspensions, together with the advice of the Strategic Audit and Advisory Committee at least 30 days before any changes take effect;

(c) the removal of regulation 6.01(c);

(d) the need to report to the Executive Board on all drawdowns against the operational reserves when implementing regulation 22.02;

(e) to ensure, when implementing rules 118.01 (b) (iii), 122.17 and 122.19, that if exceptions from any provisions of the regulations and rules are authorized or if decisions are made contrary to recommendations of the contracts and property committee(s), that such exceptions and decisions be recorded in written form;

(f) to state, in rule 104.03, that the Strategy and Audit Advisory Committee is an independent body established to provide, inter alia, advice to the Executive Board on the soundness of the risk management systems of UNOPS;

5. *Welcomes* the active engagement of UNOPS in interagency efforts to achieve harmonized financial regulations and rules, and *recommends* that the Executive Director of UNOPS review the UNOPS financial regulations and rules, following completion of the interagency exercise, with a view to achieving harmonization to the extent possible, and that the Executive Director consult accordingly with the Executive Board;

6. *Requests* UNOPS to ensure, when implementing rule 103.05, that its human resource practices do not contradict the United Nations Staff Regulations and Rules;

7. *Requests* the Strategy and Audit Advisory Committee to inform the Executive Board periodically on the implementation of the revised financial regulations and rules with a view to their further improvement;

8. *Urges* UNOPS and its United Nations partners to continue to consult on the issue of trust funds and multi-donor trust funds, and their potential impact on the activities of UNOPS, and to present the recommended conclusions to the Executive Board at its annual session 2009.

22 January 2009

2009/5
Post classification exercise and implementation for the United Nations Office for Project Services

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the report on the comprehensive post classification of international positions at the United Nations Office for Project Services and proposals with regard to the implementation of the recommendations (DP/2009/7);

2. *Recognizes* that one of the primary purposes of the proposed changes in post classifications is to reduce the current high staff attrition levels by applying the standards of the International Civil Service Commission in the classification of posts, and to reduce the associated costs with managing the high levels of staff turnover;

3. *Takes note of* the objective of UNOPS management to achieve, through the reclassification exercise, a reduction in the current attrition rates as well as increased cost savings from greater productivity and reduced selection and training expenditures for new staff, while recognizing that these expectations can be affected by a number of other factors;

4. *Approves* all the proposed post reclassifications as per DP/2009/7 and the associated increase in the 2008-2009 biennial administrative budget of up to $1,045 million, and *encourages* the Executive Director to prioritize the post upgrades for those positions with the greatest transformational impact for the organization;

5. *Requests* UNOPS to report to the Executive Board, in the Executive Director's annual report, on the implementation of the post upgrades, as well as on the productivity of the organization, including the impact on staff attrition rates and the ratio of administrative budget to programme expenditure.

22 January 2009

2009/6
Oral report to the Executive Board on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2008-2011

The Executive Board

1. *Takes note of* the oral report on the implementation of the UNDP gender strategy and action plan, as requested in decision 2006/3;

2. *Recognizes* the importance of mainstreaming gender equality as reflected in the triennial comprehensive policy review of operational activities for the development of the United Nations system (A/RES/62/208), and in the strategic plan of UNDP, 2008-2011;

3. *Requests* the Administrator to provide an oral report annually to the Executive Board on the implementation of the gender strategy and action plan, as set forth in DP/2005/7, for the remainder of the period of the strategic plan, at its first regular session each year.

22 January 2009

2009/7
Expression of appreciation to Kemal Derviş, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme from 2005 to 2009

The Executive Board,

Noting with regret that on 1 March 2009 Kemal Derviş will leave his position as Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, which he assumed in 2005,

Acknowledging the drive of Kemal Derviş to strengthen the United Nations Development Group and contribute to global development,

Also acknowledging the efforts and progress made by Mr. Derviş in increasing the effectiveness and coherence of the United Nations development system through reform initiatives such as 'delivering as one', and in providing the United Nations Development Group with leadership and guidance to confront global challenges and crises,

Noting with appreciation that Mr. Derviş has promoted and supported the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the other internationally agreed development goals,

Acknowledging the increased efficiency of UNDP in responding effectively to the needs of programme countries during the tenure of Mr. Derviş,

Recognizing in this context that Mr. Derviş has enhanced the contribution of UNDP in all its programmatic areas, encompassing democratic governance; poverty alleviation; the environment; and crisis prevention and recovery; and has made gender equality a priority across all these areas,

Noting with great satisfaction that, through the efforts of Mr. Derviş, voluntary contributions to UNDP have continued to increase,

1. *Decides* to pay special farewell tribute to Mr. Kemal Dervi̧ by:

(a) *Recognizing* the commitment, dedication and vision he has shown in strengthening the role of the entire United Nations development system and in eradicating poverty;

(b) *Commending him* for his effective guidance and management of UNDP from 2005 to 2009;

(c) *Expressing its gratitude* for his outstanding leadership in times of crisis during his tenure;

2. *Extends* its warm wishes to Kemal Dervi̧ for continued good health and success in his future endeavours.

21 January 2009

2009/8
Overview of decisions adopted by the Executive Board at its first regular session 2009

The Executive Board

Recalls that during its first regular session 2009, it:

Item 1
Organizational matters

Elected the following members of the Bureau for 2009:

President:	H.E. Mr. Mohammad Khazaee (Iran, Islamic Republic of)
Vice-President	Mr. William Exantus (Haiti)
Vice-President	Mr. Jeroen Steeghs (Netherlands)
Vice-President	Mr. Dragan Mićić (Serbia)
Vice-President	Mr. Omary Mjenga (Tanzania, United Republic of)

Adopted the agenda and work plan for its first regular session 2009 (DP/2009/L.1);
Adopted the report of the second regular session 2008 (DP/2009/1) and its corrigendum (DP/2009/1/Corr.1);
Adopted the annual work plan for 2009 (DP/2009/CRP.1);
Approved the tentative work plan for the annual session 2009;

Agreed to the following schedule for the remaining sessions of the Executive Board in 2009:

Annual session 2009:	26 May to 5 June 2009
Second regular session 2009:	8 to 11 September 2009

UNDP segment

Item 2
Financial, budgetary and administrative matters

Took note of the report on cost classification in UNDP (DP/2009/3).

Item 3
Country programmes and related matters

Adopted decision 2009/1 on the proposed measures for the resumption of UNDP programme operations in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

Approved the following country programme documents:

Africa: Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, Mauritania and the Republic of the Congo;
Asia and the Pacific: Timor-Leste;
Latin America and the Caribbean: Haiti and Venezuela.

Item 7
United Nations Office for Project Services

Adopted decision 2009/4 on the financial regulations and rules of the United Nations Office for Project Services;

Adopted decision 2009/5 on the post classification exercise and implementation for the United Nations Office for Project Services.

Item 9
Gender in UNDP

Adopted decision 2009/6 on the implementation of the UNDP gender equality strategy, 2008-2011.

Item 8
United Nations Capital Development Fund

Heard an oral report by the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Capital Development Fund on the preliminary 2008 results, and perspectives for 2009-2011.

Item 10
Other matters

Adopted decision 2009/7, an expression of appreciation to Kemal Derviş, Administrator of UNDP from 2005-2009.

UNFPA segment

Item 6
Country programmes and related matters

Approved the following country programme documents:

Africa: Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya and Mauritania;
Asia and the Pacific: Timor-Leste;
Latin America and the Caribbean: Haiti and Venezuela.

Joint UNDP/UNFPA segment

Item 4
Recommendations of the United Nations Board of Auditors

Adopted decision 2009/2 on the reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on the implementation of the recommendations of the Board of Auditors, 2006-2007.

Item 5
Report to the Economic and Social Council

Adopted decision 2000/3 on the report of the Administrator of UNDP and the Executive Director of UNFPA to the Economic and Social Council.

Item 10
Other matters

UNDP: held an informal consultation on the implementation of decision 2008/37 on internal audit and oversight;
UNFPA: gave an oral report on the development of the UNFPA evaluation policy;
UNOPS: held a briefing on the UNOPS strategy.

Joint meeting of the Executive Board of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP

Held a joint meeting of the Executive Boards of UNDP/UNFPA, UNICEF and WFP on 23 and 26 January 2009, which addressed the following topics: (a) population growth and rapid urbanization; (b) unstable food prices and the linkage with food and nutrition security; and (c) harmonization among the United Nations funds and programmes (business practices and reinforcing state capacity).

TENTATIVE WORK PLAN
EXECUTIVE BOARD OF UNDP/UNFPA
ANNUAL SESSION 2009
(26 May - 5 June 2009, New York)

Day/Date	*Time*	*Item*	*Subject*
Tuesday, 26 May	10 a.m. – 1p.m.	1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Adoption of the agenda and work plan for the session • Adoption of the report of the first regular session 2009 **UNDP SEGMENT** STATEMENT BY THE ADMINISTRATOR
	3 - 6 p.m.	2	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR • Annual report of the Administrator, including operationalization of the strategic plan (decision 2007/32) • Joint UNDP/UNFPA report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2008 • Statistical annex
		3	FUNDING COMMITMENTS TO UNDP • Status of regular funding commitments to UNDP and its funds and programmes for 2009 and onwards
Wednesday, 27 May	10 a.m. – 1p.m.	4	EVALUATION • Annual report on evaluation • Review of the evaluation policy (decision 2006/20) • Evaluation of the third regional cooperation framework (2006-2009) for Arab States and management response • Follow-up to management responses on evaluations, including decentralized evaluations (decision 2008/17)
	3 - 5 p.m.	5	HUMAN DEVELOPMENT REPORT • Update on Human Development Report consultations (GA resolution 57/264)
		6	COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Draft country programme documents • Extensions of country programmes
	5 - 6 p.m.		Informal consultations on draft decisions
Thursday, 28 May	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	7	UNITED NATIONS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND • Results-oriented annual report • Progress report on implementation of the UNCDF strategic partnership with UNDP (decision 2008/4)
	3 - 5 p.m.	8	UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN • Annual report of the Executive Director
		9	UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR PROJECT SERVICES • Annual report of the Executive Director
	5 - 6 p.m.		Informal consultations on draft decisions
Friday, 29 May	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		UNDP special event
	3 - 6 p.m.	16	OTHER MATTERS • Adoption of pending decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Adoption of the tentative work plan for the second regular session 2009 for the UNDP segment • Closing of the UNDP segment

Monday, 1 June	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		**UNFPA SEGMENT** STATEMENT BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
		12	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR 2008 • Report of the Executive Director for 2008: progress in implementing the strategic plan, 2008-2011 • Statistical and financial overview, 2008 • Joint UNDP/UNFPA report on the recommendations of the Joint Inspection Unit in 2008
	3 - 4 p.m.	12	ANNUAL REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (cont'd)
	4 - 6 p.m.		Special event on the United Nations Population Award 2009
Tuesday, 2 June	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	13	FUNDING COMMITMENTS TO UNFPA • Report on funding commitments to UNFPA
		14	COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS • Draft country programme documents and extensions of country programmes
	3 - 5 p.m.	14	COUNTRY PROGRAMMES AND RELATED MATTERS (continued)
	5 - 6 p.m.		Informal consultations on draft decisions
Wednesday, 3 June	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.	15	EVALUATION • UNFPA evaluation policy (decision 2008/12)
	3 - 6 p.m.		**JOINT UNDP/UNFPA SEGMENT**
		10	INTERNAL AUDIT AND OVERSIGHT • Reports of UNDP, UNFPA and UNOPS on internal audit and oversight, including the management responses
Thursday, 4 June	10 a.m. – 1 p.m.		Briefing on UNFPA issues
	3 - 6 p.m.	11	FIELD VISITS • Reports on field visits
		16	OTHER MATTERS • Adoption of pending decisions
		1	ORGANIZATIONAL MATTERS • Adoption of the tentative work plan for the second regular session 2009 for the UNFPA and joint segments • Closing of the session
Friday, 5 June			